

CITY BRIEFS

Learn a word every day.—Today's word is—SACROSANCT. It's pronounced—sak-ro-san-kt, with accent on the first syllable. It means—sacred, inviolable. It comes from—Latin "sacrosanctus" which, in turn, is from "acer," sacred. It's used like this—"The French say that when they considered their interests in danger from post-war developments, the English postponed their protests, yet these same English want France to agree with them that every British interest ought to be considered sacrosanct."

Mrs. L. A. Keck underwent an operation at a local sanitarium yesterday.

Mrs. Maggie Wisdom and children of Claude, were here Saturday.

Mrs. Willie O'Neal and son, J. H. O'Neal, and Miss Murry Stone, all of Panhandle, were in Amarillo yesterday.

C. C. Ferguson and son, Charles, of Hereford, were visitors in the city yesterday.

Calix Shirey and family of Panhandle, were here yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Davis and children of Hereford, were Amarillo visitors Saturday.

Mrs. J. K. Hunt of Claude, was in the city yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Wave Wallace of 1606 Hughes street, announce the arrival of a 11 pound boy.

No meeting of the Ad Club will be held Monday at noon on account of the flu.

SAXOPHONE SCHOOL.
Dave Dorden School of Music, 905 Taylor. Teaching Saxophone and All Band and Orchestra Instruments. Phone 2482.

Gin Is Running.

Special to The News.
LITTLEFIELD, Sept. 23.—The gin at this point began running yesterday. The first cotton sold here brought 19 1/2 cent per pound. Cotton is turning out some better than we anticipated a few weeks ago and the farmers are feeling very good over the situation. They will generally make enough feed to run them and the good price they are receiving for cotton is encouraging.

Dorothy Hutchings Wins the Little Miss Gage Hat at Misses Taylors.
In the Little Miss Gage Hat Contest which closed Friday, Miss Dorothy Hutchings, 1105 Jackson Street, won the prize, which is a hat of her own selection, to be made in the Gage work room and sent to her about October 15. The prize winning booklet is shown in the window at Misses Taylors.

What The People Say

MEMPHIS BAND REPLIES TO ARTICLES IN NEWS.

Editor The News:
In the Friday edition of the Amarillo Daily News appeared an article headed, "Hereford Band Gets High Praise in City." In that article appeared several statements credited to "several men locally prominent in band work," which we feel are not just in line with the facts, as shown by the contest judges' score card, as handed to us after the decision had been rendered, and we wish, in fairness to all to state in Amarillo, September 23, in which Memphis, Texas and Hereford were entered and finished in the order named.

The statement to which we take special exception was that "had the contest been judged on merit of rendition of difficult numbers, the prize would have gone to Hereford."

The contest was judged on ten points: instrumentation, selection, time, tone, tune, artistic expression, mechanical expression, phrasing, military bearing and ensemble. Ten points were given for perfection in any one division. Memphis being the only band of the three graded perfect in any division, receiving full ten points on military bearing.

The judges' score card, which we have in our possession, giving the grading of the contestants, was as follows:

	Mem.	Tex.	Hereford
1. Instrumentation	6	8	8
2. Selection	7	8	5
3. Time	8	8	7
4. Tone	7	8	6
5. Tune	7	8	6
6. Artistic expression	8	4	7
7. Mechanical	8	4	8
8. Phrasing	6	5	6
9. Military bearing	10	7	5
10. Ensemble	7	7	7
Totals	74	67	65

The article further states that "it was the consensus of opinion that Hereford played the most difficult pieces and played them with the most skill, but the band was said to have lost out in some of the other points in judging." As we understand it, the five divisions relating to "skill" were time, tone, tune, expression and phrasing. Leaving out the other points, and judging the contest on these points alone, the standing of the three bands would have been as follows: Memphis, 25; Texas, 23; Hereford, 22. Thus it will be seen that in every point, Memphis was the winner.

We do not care to find any fault with anyone, or start any argument, but merely give the above facts to set things right before the public.
The Memphis Chamber of Commerce Band went into the contest with the best of feeling for all other contestants, and came out the same way. It was on the job both days of the convention, and did its part in entertaining the crowds both days, instead of merely coming to Amarillo in time to compete in the contest, and had we failed to win, we would have felt that we had done our part in making the convention a success and boosting our home city and country.

Memphis Chamber of Commerce Band
Memphis, Texas.

EL PASO, Sept. 23.—Improvements in the power plant of the El Paso Railway will increase its capacity to produce electric energy to the extent of almost 3,000 horsepower.

HOUSE MEMBERS DON'T LIKE IT BECAUSE THEY ARE HELD IN CAPITAL OVER RAIL ORDER

By RANCOM N. TIMMONS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23.—Members of Congress, kept in Washington on pending the outcome of the Dougherty injunction obtained at Chicago, are chafing at the restraint. All of them want to get home and fix up their fences.

The predicament of the members emphasizes the fact that of recent years senators and representatives are getting to be year-round residents of Washington, remaining almost continually in session, instead of rushing bills through in a few months and then scattering to their homes. As a matter of fact since President Taft called congress into extraordinary session in 1909 to consider the Canadian reciprocity bill up to the 31st of this month, Congress will have been in session 3,549 days out of a possible 5,000 days. This is in strong contrast to some earlier sessions.

Congress may adjourn about Oct. 1, some of those who pretend to have some inside information will tell you. The best "dope" at present is that Congress will take a recess shortly until after the elections, then coming back and using the short time before the short session, which opens on December 4, to get some of the legislative matters disposed of before tackling the appropriation bills.

This short session—December 4 to March 4, exactly three months—must be given over almost exclusively to the appropriations bills which must be passed before the new Congress comes in. The failure of any appropriation bill to pass would necessitate an extra session, when if they come back and take of the bill, and open the door to other matters, there is no telling when the members can again get away from Washington.

There are those who argue that it would be a big relief for the country generally and for members themselves if Congress were not so almost continually in session, grinding on interqu Coast during which the congressmen could get in closer touch with their constituents, allowing the lawyers to really and out what the laws are, and giving the people a chance to work out their own salvation naturally, rather than artificially by depending upon legislative specifics and panaceas. But the fact remains that the present system of organizing the Congress and the rules of practice are largely responsible for the lengthened sessions. So that unless some important changes are made so as to have Congress with us for the best part of each summer, from now on.

During the long session on three dif-

ferent occasions the House adjourned early having completed its program. For instance, it adjourned as early as April 28, 1904; again, it adjourned on June 25, 1906, and a third time on June 25, 1910.

At the commencement of the session it was the practice to prepare a program, and by the process of party caucuses to determine what the majority party wanted to do, to fix its policies and then go ahead and execute them. Consequently, they were able to dispatch business and quit.

But with the advent of the Sixty-second Congress the committee on committees system was first put into operation, and the responsibility previously vested in the Speaker, was scrambled. The most direct result was that there are not particular check on committee activities. The lid was off and proposed legislation, whether desirable or not, whether agreeable to the party policy or fitting in with the administration program or not, was given a hearing and whipped along.

This led to wider spread activities on the part of the House itself, and prolonged its sessions. Coincidentally with this the seventeenth amendment to the constitution began to operate whereby Senators were elected by direct vote of the people. This liberalized procedure in

the Senate and its committees, where there was even greater latitude for unlimited discussion. These two reforms together tended to lengthen the session of Congress.

Shortly after the world war made necessary a great deal of legislation, both in a preliminary way and after this country entered the war. This war legislation necessarily took up a great deal of time, and in fact, nearly the entire time of the Sixty-fifth Congress was devoted to war measures. Following the armistice, came the League of Nations treaty, which was considered to the exclusion of ordinary business in the Senate for months, while the House was engaged in the consideration of measures dealing with the aftermath of the world war—readjustment, rehabilitation, settlements—and one emergency after another arose to keep Congress in session.

Beginning with the Sixty-first Congress which was the last Speaker Cannon's incumbency, when his power to appoint committees was taken away, there was an extra session at which the Payne-Aldrich tariff law was considered and passed. Congress then adjourned on August 5, 1909, having been in session since March 15 considering the tariff bill exclusively.

Then in the Sixty-second Congress, in which the House was overwhelmingly Democratic, President Taft called an extra session, which met on April 4, 1911, and adjourned August 22, during which the Canadian reciprocity bill was passed and a number of so-called "penguin" tariff bills—all of which were vetoed by President Taft or held up in the Republican Senate.

Then, again in the Sixty-third Con-

gress there was an extra session, convened April 7, 1913, which did not adjourn until December 1 running into the regular session, during which the Underwood tariff bill and the currency law were passed.

For the first time in years there was no extra session in the Sixty-fourth Congress, the former usual recess being taken from March 4 until December 6. This was the only extended recess in fourteen years.

Then in the Sixty-fifth Congress, President Wilson called Congress into session convening until April 2, 1917, because of the impending war menace. Congress declared war on April 6, since which time the earliest adjournment of any long session was June 5, 1920. The other sessions adjourned on November 21, 1918; November 19, 1919, and November 23, 1921.

So it will be seen that in the elder days, before Cannonism (so-called) was undiagnosed, a comparatively terse and sharply defined administration or party program was driven through. Now we have everything paramount, everything an emergency. Every time Congress gets ready to go home to see what the people think, and to give everybody a chance to get adjusted—along comes a new flurry over something and Congress is held here.

Now, regarding the present situation, members are pretty well agreed that a recess until after the campaign is the best course. They are afraid to let several important pieces of legislation, such as the tariff and soldiers' bonus, etc., hang over with the threat of being injected into the short session, which

must be held safe for appropriation bills.

In the old days there was a very nice way to check such intrusions. When "Tom" Reed was Speaker he would not appoint the committees, except the appropriation committee, and the committee on accounts and such housekeeping committees. In that way he kept the membership from scattering their minds on general measures in their respective committee, and concentrated them on the specific business that had to be put through.

F. D. Harmon, Cedar Falls, Wash., has invented a device that warns the driver when a tire is deflated.

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